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Agile Development

Agile development is a method for developing software that was created in 2001 by a group of seventeen software developers who had gathered to discuss lightweight development methods. This method was created around a set of core values that these developers all believed in. These values consist of individuals and interactions over processes and tools, working software over comprehensive documentation, customer collaboration over contract negotiation, and responding to change over following a plan. These four values outline the main differences between agile and development over waterfall development, choosing to work better as a team to build up a functioning program that meets with the customer's demands in real time, rather than following the rigid structure of the waterfall method. The fluidity of the agile method makes it easier and less expensive to rework and add features into a software, because the development of the software is an ongoing process that is constantly monitored and reported by the developers working on it. The enhanced collaboration and teamwork seeks to prevent any errors slipping by that may arise when multiple people work on a program individually and share what they completed once they were finished. Overall, agile development is a much more collaborative and responsive way of creating software that can be changed to meet a customer's needs as time and communication continue.